GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7203
ANSWERED ON:12.05.2000
EXPORT OF MARINE PRODUCTS
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) total earning to the Government from the export of marine products during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government are satisfied with the earnings;

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to increase the earnings; and

(d) the benefits provided to the marine product exporters?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) The total earnings of India on account of export of marine products, during the last three years,as against the target set, have been as follows:

(US $ Million)

YEAR	Total Earnings	Export Target
1999-2000	1184.23 (Provisional)	1216.00
1998-1999	1106.91	1350.00
1997-1998	1295.86	1200.00

(b) , (c) & (d) During the year 1997-98 the export of marine products exceeded the target set for the year, the target could not be achieved during the year 1998-99 and 1999-2000. On the other hand, exports grew during the year 1997-98 as compared to 1996-97 by 12.41%, declined by 14.58% as compared to the year 1997-98 and have grown by 6.99% in the year 1999-2000 as compared to the year 1998-99. As such, the exports of marine products have not maintained, over the last few years, a consistent pattern of growth. Some of the steps taken by the Government of India through the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) fo boosting the exports of marine products from India include, inter-alia, implementation of schemes for procurement of equipment used by the processing industry, development of new prawn farms, authorising MPEDA to conduct a market research in respect of US market, participating in seafood related fairs abroad, conducting market survey in the market of China, South Korea and Taiwan, conducting demonstration programmes for propagating eco-friendly aquaculture, laying thrust upon diversified aquaculture, approving a project for identifying the problems aimed at containing disease in shrimp farms, setting up a Special Task Force for looking into financial needs of the industry and stressing upon the necessity of promoting exports of value added products from India.